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Examiner:

Applicant: Roman Golicz et al.

Art Unit:

Title: Sheet Feeding Apparatus

Atty. No. 9534

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D.M.
7/31/01

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants enclose Form PTO 1499 and copies of the patents cited therein:

The O'Brien et al patent shows apparatus adapted to handle mail pieces of varying thickness, comprising a pivoting four-bar linkage 36.

Golicz '036 at Fig. 14 and 15 shows a device 143 which superficially resembles part of the apparatus of the present invention. See Col. 13, line 54 ff. The device 143 is in fact part of a photocopier printer 27 (See Fig. 1) which the '036 invention is adapted to feed. Attached is a declaration of applicant Roman Golicz describing what the device '143 is.

The Gianetti patent shows feed belt 43 that is slightly above the level of the sheet tray and retard rollers that pivot. See Fig. 2-4 and Col. 5, lines 39 ff.

Golizc '899 shows a sheet feeder having a belt-driven pivoting singulator wheel 98, the function of which is described at Col. 4, line 50 ff and elsewhere.

Golicz '004 shows in Fig. 2 a singulator feed assembly 10 mounted on a center pivot shaft 17. See Col. 2, line 44 ff.

Struthers '729 shows a belt type singulator assembly 40. This is shown in Fig. 3 and shown but not labeled in Fig. 7, 8. See text at Col. 11, line 10 ff. It is difficult to connect up the drawings. The singulator pivots about a shaft -- it would appear 48a, shown in Fig. 6.

Golicz '272 shows a misleading device 143 that looks like a prompter, at Fig. 14 and 15. Actually the device 143 is a portion of a large device on a commercial printer. See also Column 13, line 34, continuing to Column 14, line 18. Declaration of Roman Golicz is attached, to more particularly describe the feedbelt 143.

Applicant makes reference to the International Search Report for the PCT application from which the present application derives.

None of the patents reveal or make obvious the present invention.

The examiner is advised of related application by applicants: "Feeder for Flat Articles of Varying Thickness" SN 08/831,356, filed with the US

Patent Office on April 1, 1997.

Respectfully submitted,

ROMAN GOLICZ et al.

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